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In the Claims:

- 1.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition comprising at least one water-softening active and a blend of disintegrating agents, wherein the compressed water-softening composition has hardness of at least 175N, wherein the blend of disintegrating agents comprises:  
  - a cross linked polyplasdone;
  - a water swellable cellulose and, optionally,
  - a water soluble salt.
- 2.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the composition is substantially free of surfactant or bleach ingredients.
- 3.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of up to 10% by weight of the composition.
- 4.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 3 wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of at least 0.1% by weight of the composition.
- 5.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-soluble salt has a solubility of at least 50g/100g of deionised water at 20°C.
- 6.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-swellable cellulose has a water uptake of at least 15g of deionised water at 20 °C per g of water-swellable cellulose.
- 7.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-softening active is selected from the group: ion exchange agents, ion capture agents, and anti-nucleating agents.

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8.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the cross linked polyplasdone is present in an amount of up to 1.4%wt. of the said composition.

9.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the cross linked polyplasdone is present in an amount of up to 95%wt. of the blend of disintegrating agents.

10.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-swellable cellulose is present in an amount of up to 1.4%wt. of the said composition.

11.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-swellable cellulose is present in an amount of up to 95%wt. of the blend of disintegrating agents.

12.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 herein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of up to 10% by weight of the composition.

13.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of at least 0.1% by weight of the composition.

14.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-soluble salt has a solubility of at least 50g/100g of deionised water at 20°C.

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15.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-swellable cellulose has a water uptake of at least 15g of deionised water at 20 °C per g of water-swellable cellulose.

16.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-softening active is selected from the group: ion exchange agents, ion capture agents, and anti-nucleating agents.

17.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the composition comprises less than 5% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.

18.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 17 wherein the composition comprises less than 1% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.

19.(previously presented) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 18 wherein the composition comprises 0% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.